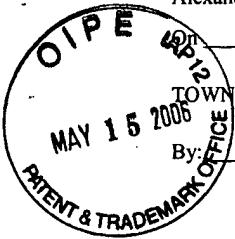


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5/11/06

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
By: Cym

AMENDMENT SUBMITTED WITH REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 16869S-093400US
Client Ref. No.: W1175-01EF

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Yuichiro NAGASHIMA et al.

Application No.: 10/651,681

Filed: August 29, 2003

For: STORAGE SYSTEM CONTROL
METHOD, STORAGE SYSTEM,
INFORMATION PROCESSING
SYSTEM, MANAGING COMPUTER
AND PROGRAM

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 9208

Examiner: Ryan A. Dare

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2186

AMENDMENT SUBMITTED WITH REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed January 17, 2006 on the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.